

PROMOTION RECOMMENDATION
 UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN MEDICAL SCHOOL
 DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY
 DEPARTMENT OF MOLECULAR AND INTEGRATIVE PHYSIOLOGY

Margaret V. Westfall, Ph.D., Assistant Professor of Surgery, Department of Surgery, and Assistant Professor of Molecular and Integrative Physiology, Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology, Medical School, is recommended for promotion to Associate Professor of Surgery, with tenure, Department of Surgery, and Associate Professor of Molecular and Integrative Physiology, without tenure, Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology, Medical School.

Academic Degrees:

Ph.D.	1989	Loyola University of Chicago
M.S.	1981	University of Montana
B.A.	1978	Colorado College

Professional Record:

2000-Present	Assistant Professor of Surgery, University of Michigan Assistant Professor of Molecular and Integrative Physiology, University of Michigan
1999-2000	Assistant Professor of Physiology, University of Michigan
1998-2000	Assistant Research Scientist, Department of Physiology, University of Michigan

Summary of Evaluation:

Teaching: Dr. Westfall has taught in a number of settings from undergraduate to residents. Her primary continuing classroom teaching has been in BME/Physiology 419/519 where she has taught cardiovascular physiology since 1999. She has also served as a small group facilitator for cardiovascular, respiration and renal physiology conferences in the M1 curriculum. In 2004, she presented the lectures on muscle physiology when the usual instructor was on sabbatical leave. In the Cell and Molecular Biology (CMB) Ph.D. program she has served as co-coordinator of the Student Seminar (CMB 850). In Surgery, she regularly presents lectures in the Thoracic Surgery Didactic Series to medical students, residents and fellows. Dr. Westfall is an excellent teacher, a clear presenter, and interacts well with students. In the laboratory, she has supervised a number of undergraduates in the UROP and SROP programs and several masters-level students as well as two Program in Biomedical Sciences (PIBS) students and one postdoctoral fellow. Dr. Westfall is a dedicated and effective mentor and her undergraduate students have presented abstracts and coauthored papers from her laboratory.

Research: Dr. Westfall's area of research involves the modulation of cardiac myocyte contractile performance in health and disease with a focus on regulatory phosphorylation of the thin

filament protein troponin I. Her research is supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health/National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute and the American Heart Association. Internally, she has received support from Rackham, McKay/CVC, the Surgery Research Advisory Committee, and others. She has been highly productive, with 47 peer-reviewed research papers. She has been an active collaborator both within and outside the University.

Recent and Significant Publications:

Westfall MV, Metzger JM: Single amino acid differences define troponin I isoform-specific myofilament Ca^{2+} and pH sensitivity. *Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology* (Accepted, 2007).

Day SM*, Westfall MV*, Fomicheva EV, LaCross N, Yasuda S, Hoyer K, Ingwall JS, and Metzger JM: Histidine-modified troponin I protects the heart from ischemic heart failure. *Nature Medicine* 12:181-189, 2006 (*authors contributed equally to this work).

Green JJ, Robinson DA, Wilson GE, Simpson RU, Westfall MV: 1,25 Dihydroxyvitamin D₃ (Calcitriol modulation of cardiac contractile performance via protein kinase C. *Journal of Molecular and Cellular Cardiology* 41:350-359, 2006.

Westfall MV, Lee A, Robinson DA: Differentiation contribution of troponin I phosphorylation sites to the endothelin-modulated contractile response. *Journal of Biological Chemistry* 280:41324-41331, 2005.

Westfall MV, Borton AR: Role of troponin I phosphorylation in protein kinase C-mediated enhanced contractile performance of rat myocytes. *Journal of Biological Chemistry* 278:33694-33700, 2003.

Service: Dr. Westfall has played a significant role in mentoring undergraduate and graduate students, as well as a postdoctoral fellow. She likewise has been on numerous dissertation and preliminary examination committees. She has fulfilled advisory roles for NIH Study Sections and has served as grant reviewer for the American Heart Association. She has been Chair of the Biophysical Society. Internally, she has been a grant reviewer for the Cardiovascular Center, MICHR, and the Surgery Research Advisory Committee, the latter of which she is now a member.

External Review:

Reviewer A: "I refer to Dr. Westfall's studies in my manuscripts and in my grant applications.... Dr. Westfall has been recognized nationally for her scholarly work....Her productivity as measured by her publications is excellent."

Reviewer B: "I am most impressed by her as an Educator and a Researcher. Dr. Westfall is a highly respected scientist in the area of muscle biology and has made several important contributions...Dr. Westfall stands out as a solid contributor and a genuine scientist who deserves much credit for her work."

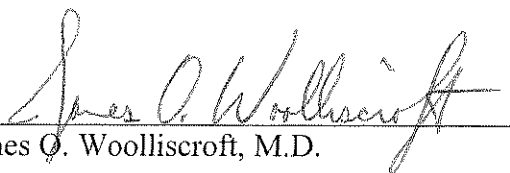
Reviewer C: "...she is a very thoughtful, thorough, and highly motivated scientist who already has made significant contributions to the field of cardiac muscle physiology. Dr. Westfall is widely recognized for these contributions by her peers."

Reviewer D: "There isn't any question in my mind about Margaret's qualification for appointment as Associate Professor with tenure. Her contributions are clearly at or above the levels expected for an Associate Professor in all areas. She is a top-notch scientist who is highly respected in the field of regulation of cardiac contractility in health and diseases, as indicated by her publications, citations and funding. She is a good citizen of the academic community, providing service at the local, national and international levels."

Reviewer E: "...Dr. Westfall has made significant contributions to our understanding of normal function, as well as how dysfunction may occur in disease. Indeed, her work has been important in suggesting that troponin I is a key protein in the mechanisms of progression to heart failure for several cardiomyopathic conditions....The quality and impact of her work is evidenced by the fact that she is published in top quality journals such as Nature Medicine, Circulation, Circulation Research, and Journal of Biological Chemistry."

Summary of Recommendation:

Dr. Westfall has achieved a national reputation as a scholar, researcher, and educator in cardiac pathophysiology. I am pleased to recommend Dr. Margaret V. Westfall for promotion to Associate Professor, with tenure, in the Department of Surgery, and Associate Professor, without tenure, in the Department of Molecular and Integrative Physiology.



James O. Woolliscroft, M.D.

Dean

Lyle C. Roll Professor of Medicine

May 2008